IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE JUN 1 8 2001 re patent application of:

Before the Examiner

Richard Flieger et al.

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**Bushing Contact** 

Group Art Unit:

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicants hereby submit the attached documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), as these documents are being submitted before the first Office Action. Copies of the cited items are enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98.

Applicants have included a copy of U.S. patent 5,863,225 (counterpart to DE 195 36500); an English Abstract of DE 4312641; and a copy of Utility Model 9201047. All three of these references are discussed in the specification pages 1-2.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b), or that these documents are prior art.

It is believed that no fee is required for consideration of the submitted items. Should any fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0387, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and

Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: June 3, 2001

Dated: June \ 3, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

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